Gazette of the United States.

No. VII. From SATURDAY, MAY 2, to WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1789. PRICE SIX PENCE.

A SKETCH of the POLITICAL STATE of AMERICA.

NUMBER IV.

THAT temptation to fraud and subterfuge, which the currency of a fluctuating medium presented, had a visible effect upon the morals of the community, and tended to destroy that reciprocal confidence, between the individual members which forms the great prop and cement of all society. It is by some supposed, that a state of war is ever productive of vice and immorality, by prejudicing the habits, and corrupting the manners of a people: Perhaps the reasoning is no further true, than by opening a wider field for exertion, and greater opportunity for the display of the powers of the mind, the latent seeds of vice are invigorated, and the prolific soil which covers them being loosened, they spring into view: Habits of dissipation naturally arise in armies, and among large collections of men, which the vigour of military discipline is sometimes unable to controul; and which in a country, whose citizens are also soldiers, are easily introduced among the great mass of the people. This was peculiarly the situation of America; and that indolence and inactivity, succeeded enterprise and exertion, which but ill become a young country, just emerged from a long and expensive war; and under the necessity of obtaining future support by her own industry, and without the aid of a rich parent.

Common danger no longer operating to direct the views, and draw the exertions of her several States to one common centre, a different scene soon opened to our view: The recommendations of Congress having lost the support of that zeal and enthusiasm, which had ever given them the force of law, soon served only to present repeated proofs of its declining power: The clangor of the trumpet, and the din of arms, had deprived most of the States of an opportunity to form those plans of civil policy, which require mature reflection, and a tranquil mind; and languor and indecision became the characteristic marks of their future deliberations; and the influence of those eternal rules of Justice, which do honor to a people, daily became more faint and weak, till the opposite principle, in many instances, prevailed, and to do the most wrong became the greatest object of emulation: For want of that protection and encouragement, which is derived from the fostering hand of a good government, our citizens were obliged to resort to the dominions of our late enemies, to pursue those plans of business, and obtain that support which their own country denied them. The blood of those heroes, who had fallen martyrs to freedom, grew pale to the imagination; and the expressive tear of the widow and the orphan, no longer communicated emotion: The wretch, cripled in the service of his country, was reproached for complaining; and the foreign and domestic creditor, called in vain upon our Gratitude, our Justice and Humanity——America, blush at the recital!—— Our *Cæsars* and *Catalines* watched, with an eager eye, an opportunity to seize on the liberties of their country; and fell anarchy, with all her train of concomitant evils, began to stalk with gigantic strides over these confederated republics, and they were alarmed by all those convulsions and agitations, which like the sulphureous fermentations in the bowels of the earth, frequently threaten a dissolution.

Unhappy for America, the too benevolent a presumption upon the disposition of foreign powers, prevented her seeing sufficiently seasonably, the effects of their baneful policy, while too strong a reliance on her own virtue—a supposed competition of interests between the States, and inexperience in the conduct of national affairs, rendered the establishment of necessary regulations, of a general nature, impossible to be effected: While only reasoning upon the subject, and not till an almost total decay of trade—want of employment among her mechanics, and a general poverty of her citizens, had taken place, could she be prevailed upon to adopt those measures, and pursue those principles, on which her future prosperity and happiness evidently rested. AMERICANUS.

(To be continued.)

ANECDOTE of CROMWELL.

WHEN Cromwell was in Scotland with his troops, he went out one morning to see the country with only a few guards: a Scotch soldier, thinking to make himself remarkable by doing some great deed, fired at him from behind a dyke; but having missed his aim, Cromwell's guards were going to seize and kill him. "Let him alone," said Cromwell (no way discomposed,) and darting a look at the fellow—"You lubberly rascal, if any of my soldiers had missed such a mark, I would have tied him up to the halberds."

ON SLAVERY.

EXTRACT FROM "AMERICAN ESSAYS."

EVERY man in the United States, who is tolerably acquainted with the history of the late war, cannot be ignorant that many of the citizens of the Southern States, whose property principally consists in *Slaves*, have greatly and gloriously distinguished themselves during the war, in every act, quality, and principle, that constitutes a true Patriot: Let not the citizens therefore of the northern States presume to censure those deserving patriots, or vainly arrogate to themselves superior virtue, merely because from local, or other adventitious circumstances, they have never owned a slave. And now that those plundered Exiles are returned to their ravaged, and ruined possessions, and are gathering the poor scanty leavings of a cruel, rapacious enemy, can any man, *without a blush*, express a wish, to see those worthy fellow-citizens stripped of the poor remains of their once affluent fortunes, or even talk of the *future* surrender of their slender gleanings, without proposing, or rather *providing* an ample recompence? As I am not individually interested in favor, or against Slavery, farther than I consider it the cause of my fellow-men—so not having maturely considered the subject, I do not conceive myself qualified, at present, to treat upon it so amply as its importance seems to require, and shall therefore only venture a few cursory observations.

In defence of Slavery, it has incontrovertibly the sanction of numerous precedents, as it clearly appears from sacred and profane history, to have been authorized and practised from the earliest ages, and by the greatest nations, of which we have any accurate knowlege: The Egyptians, Phenicians, Jews, Babylonians, Persians, *Greeks*, and *Romans*, are recorded to have had large possessions in slaves: *Athens*, in the zenith of her glory, contained only twenty one thousand citizens, and *four hundred thousand slaves*.* In the most flourishing periods of *Rome*, there was a still greater proportion of slaves, and some individual citizens of Rome were said to have possessed *thirty thousand slaves*.†

When it is also considered, that the native subjects of Africa, as far as we are at present acquainted with the history of that country, hold their lives and property, in general, at the absolute will and disposal of their Princes, or Chiefs, *and therefore may be said to be born slaves*. We may rationally conclude, without supposing any natural inferiority, *as some have lately pretended*, that Negroes can more easily brook a state of Slavery, than any other nation we are at present acquainted with; and when we see, or hear of whole hecatombs sacrificed to the pride, or offered to the manes of some African Despot, and at the same time view the situation of slaves in general in the United States of America, it would seem, by a fair comparison, that the state of those Slaves was greatly meliorated by an exchange of masters: With these, let us at the same time compare the present state of the poor in the populous towns and cities of Europe, where passengers are continually shocked with the sight of thousands of wretches, superanuated—diseased—without shelter—without food—without cloaths—without a friend—and without a MASTER, to whom they can look up, or on whom they have a rightful and *legal* claim for protection and support; thus destitute and forlorn, the situation of the Slave appears comparatively enviable; for as among rude and ignorant nations, age is generally more respected than among the more polished part of mankind, so the old and decrepit slave, on a plantation, seldom wants any comforts, which are in the power of his children (who are rarely seperated from him) or his fellow-slaves to bestow. But when I review the actions of that renowned race of Demi-Gods on earth, the almost adored citizens of Rome, I cannot but exclaim, with no small degree of indignation, what were they? A race of Tyrants; of Masters: Their boasted FREE Government! What was it? A scene of shocking, disgraceful, degrading tyranny, and oppression: Where even their Mechanics, and Laborers, were denied the common privileges of men, and in many respects less regarded than the brute creation: And where the wealthy citizen‡ is said to have fed the fishes in his ponds *with the flesh of his slaves*: When I return from contemplating this horrid scene, and survey the no less pitiable condition of the wretched Slaves at this present day, in the English and Dutch colonies, where I behold a petty tyrant of an Overseer, *lording it over his fellow-creatures, with whips of scorpions, and with rods of iron; glutting by turns his avarice, cruelty and* lust; *with every other hateful passion, in wanton, vile excess*, upon those passive, injured, and defenceless victims, my soul recoils at the word SLAVERY; and while I pity the ignorant savage tyrants of Africa, I cannot forbear execrating the more enlightened, but more barbarous tyrants in America. Yet these men will pretend to own *a common Father of all Mankind*, and shamelessly deny that we are brethren; and they have the presumption to affect to believe that *the great Searcher of hearts* pays a particular respect to the *colour of the Skin*. But it must be allowed, that in all societies, subordination and servitude are in some degree necessary—These naturally imply superiority and power: Power therefore cannot be supposed in itself unjust, but only the abuse of that power: A frequent change, or rotation of property, occasioned by the introduction of *Commerce* into many of the European States, has greatly checked this wanton exercise, or abuse of power; and in many of those States, has by degrees, totally abolished that villanage which existed in the primitive ages. Yet, as in all civilized states, an excess of poverty will be the inevitable lot of some, it may therefore naturally be expected, that the poor in general will experience a certain degree of dependence, and servility. And as is not in the power of laws effectually to shield every individual from every species of oppression, so it is to be expected that some masters will maltreat their slaves, and some of the rich will oppress the poor; if the state of the poor may be supposed in some respects preferable to that of the African Slaves, yet I am of opinion, that in other respects it may sometimes be less eligible, unless we should allow an equal degree of sensibility to mankind in every state and condition, which opinion I cannot think, either reason, experience, or common observation will warrant: Be that as it may, all Europe evinces, that where there are no Black men, there must be white men to do the menial, and other servile offices requisite in society; or in other words, where there are no *black slaves*, there must be *white slaves*. But as slavery, however convenient, or even just, may not appear perfectly compatible with the opinions of Americans, as advocates for certain natural inalienable rights equally appertaining to all mankind, so it may be presumed, there are few owners of slaves, who would not freely make a large discount, in order to exchange that species of property, for such as would be more consonant to their feelings, and principles. But in what manner those slaves when manumitted, are to be supported, is a matter of vast importance to be previously considered, and adjusted; which will I fear be found to be attended with insurmountable difficulties, for however strange it may appear, it is nevertheless true, as has been proved in various iustances, that there will be but a small proportion of the whole number of slaves, who will be able to provide for themselves, and therefore unless retaken into the same, or similar service, and state, will become a grievous burthen to the community; which in addition to the present numbers unemployed in America, and the price that justice will require to be paid to the owners for their manumission, will be probably more than we shall speedily be able to bear.

E. C.

NOTES.

* Athenaus, lib. 6, cap. 20.

† Ibid.

‡ Vedius Pollis—Donat. ad Terentii Phorm. Act 2. Scene I. See observations concerning the distinction of ranks in society. By JOHN MILLAR, Esq. page 209, in note.

MR. FENNO,

AS many persons are not possessed of any just ideas of the origin of those enormities, which have been perpetrated in the East-Indies by English adventures, the following, taken from an European publication, may be satisfactory to some of your readers, as it has been to E. Z.

The Origin and Progress of the British Power and Oppression in India.

DURING the time of the Mogul government, the Princes of that race, who omitted nothing for the encouragement of commerce in their dominions bestowed very large privileges and immunities on the English East-India company, exempted them from several duties to which their natural born subjects were liable. The company's dustruct or passport, secured to them this exemption at all the custom-houses and toll-bars of the country. The company not being able, or not chusing to make use of their privilege to the full extent to which it might be carried, indulged their servants with a qualified use of their passport; under which, and in the name of the company, they carried on a private trade, either by themselves or in society with natives; and thus found a compensation for the scanty allowances made to them by their masters in England. As the country government was at that time in the fulness of its strength, and this immunity existed by a double connivance, it was naturally kept within tolerable limits.

But by the revolution in 1757, the company's ſervants obtained a mighty aſcendant over the native Princes of Bengal, who owed their elevation to the Britiſh arms. The company, which was new to that kind of power, and not yet thoroughly apprized of its real character and ſituation, conſidered itſelf ſtill as a trader in the territories of a foreign potentate, in the proſperity of whoſe country it had neither intereſt nor duty. The ſervants, with the ſame ideas, followed their fortune in the channels in which it had hitherto ran, only enlarging them with the enlargement of their power. For their firſt ideas of profit were not official; nor were their oppreſſions thoſe of ordinary deſpotiſm. The firſt inſtruments of their power were formed out of evaſions of their ancient ſubjections. The paſſport of the company in the hands of its ſervants was no longer under any reſtraint; and in a very ſhort time their immunity began to cover all the merchandiſe of the country. Coſſim Ali Khan, the ſecond of the Nabobs whom they had ſet up, was but ill diſpoſed to the inſtruments of his greatneſs. He bore the yoke of this imperious commerce with the utmoſt impatience: he ſaw his ſubjects excluded as aliens from their own trade, and the revenues of the Prince overwhelmed in the ruin of the commerce of his dominions. Finding his reiterated remonſtrances on the extent and abuſe of the paſſport ineffectual, he had recourſe to an unexpected expedient, which was to declare his reſolution at once to annul all the duties on trade, ſetting it equally free to ſubjects and to foreigners.

Never was the method of defeating the oppreſſions of monopoly more forcible, more ſimple, or more equitable: no ſort of plauſible objections could be made; and it was in vain to think of evading it. It was therefore met with the confidence of avowed and determined injuſtice. The preſidency of Calcutta openly denied to the Prince the power of protecting the trade of his ſubjects, by the remiſſion of his own duties. It was evident that his authority drew to its period; many reaſons and motives concurred, and his fall was haſtened by the odium of the oppreſſions which he exerciſed voluntarily, as well as thoſe to which he was obliged to ſubmit.

When this example was made, Jaffier Ali Khan, who had been diſpoſed to make room for the laſt actor, was brought from penury and exile to a ſtation, the terms of which he could not miſunderſtand. During his life, and in the time of his children who ſucceeded him, parts of the territorial revenue were aſſigned to the company; and the whole, under the name of reſidency at the Nabob's court, was brought directly or indirectly, under the controul of Britiſh ſubjects. The company's ſervants, armed with authorities delegated from the nominal government, or attended with what was a ſtronger guard, the fame of their own power, appeared as magiſtrates in the markets in which they dealt as traders. It was impoſſible for the natives in general to diſtinguiſh, in the proceedings of the ſame perſons, what was tranſacted on the company's account, from what was done on their own; and it will ever be ſo difficult to draw this line of diſtinction, that, as long as the company does, directly or indirectly, aim at any advantage to itſelf in the purchaſe of any commodity whatever, ſo long will it be impracticable to prevent the ſervants availing themſelves of the ſame privilege.

The ſervants therefore, for themſelves, or for their employers, monopolized every article of trade, foreign and domeſtic; not only the raw merchantable commodities, but the manufactures, and not only theſe, but the neceſſaries of life, or what in theſe countries, habit has confounded with them; not only ſilk, cotton, piece goods, opium, ſaltpetre, but not unfrequently ſalt, tobacco, betel nut and the grain of moſt ordinary conſumption. In the name of the country government they laid on or took off, and at their pleaſure heightened or lowered, all duties upon goods: the whole trade of the country was either deſtroyed, or in ſhackles. The acquiſition of the Duanne, in 1765, bringing the Engliſh into the immediate government of the country, in its moſt eſſential branches, extended and confirmed all the former means of monopoly.

In the Progreſs of theſe ruinous meaſures, through all their details, innumerable grievances were ſuffered by the native inhabitants, which were repreſented in the ſtrongeſt, that is, their true colours, in England. Whilſt the far greater part of the Britiſh in India were in eager purſuit of the forced and exorbitant gains of trade carried on by power, conteſts naturally aroſe among the competitors: thoſe who were overpowered by their rivals, became loud in their complaints to the court of directors, and were very capable, from experience, of pointing out every mode of abuſe.

ANECDOTE *of* SWIFT and ADDISON.

ONE evening, during a tete-a-tete converſation between Addiſon and Swift, the various characters in Scripture were canvaſſed, and their merits and demerits were fully diſcuſſed. Swift's favourite, however, was Joſeph, while Addiſon contended ſtrongly for the amiable Jonathan. The diſpute laſted ſome time, when the author of Cato obſerved, that it was very fortunate they were alone, as the character which he had been praiſing ſo warmly was the name-ſake of Swift—while the other, of which Swift had been ſo laviſh in his commendations, was the nameſake of Addiſon.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE,

By the Ship JANE, Capt. HAYNES, who arrived here on Friday Evening, in 49 days from London.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

THE letter which Mr. PITT received from Kew on Monday night, which commanded his attendance there on his Majeſty, the following day, was in the King's own hand writing, and is one of the firſt letters which His Majeſty has written ſince the happy recovery from his late dreadful illneſs.

We are informed, that when the Ambaſſadors of Tippo Sultan were taking leave at the court of Verſailles, they requeſted to know what mark of friendſhip from their maſter would be moſt ſatisfactory to the King of France: On which the King declared, "that the liberty of any Engliſh officers or ſoldiers, who might ſtill be detained priſoners in the Saltan's dominions, and more eſpecially of thoſe who had been priſoners with M. SUFFREIN, would be the greateſt teſt of regard for his Majeſty." A declaration, which reflects honor upon the throne from which it proceeded, and which exalts its author above the rank of Kings! The Protector of Humanity!

It was not, we are informed, the intention of the court of France to make this intereſting requeſt known, till it took a happy effect in India: The Indian Ambaſſadors gave the firſt public intimation of the requeſt: M. Suffrein wrote upon the ſame ſubject a very ſtrong letter to Tippo, and orders have been ſent to the French governors in India to uſe every poſſible influence at the court of Tippo to carry a point equally intereſting to humanity, and to the policy of an enlightened and powerful nation.

The particulars of a negociation, ſo creditable to its author, and which diſplays ſo happily the liberal ſpirit of the age, cannot and ought not to remain long unexplained.

[*The above article exhibits an evidence, among a thouſand others, that daily occur, of the encreaſing urbanity, and refined ſenſibility of the preſent age—and while it extorts a juſt tribute of applauſe on the MONARCH OF FRANCE, the generous acknowledgement of the Engliſh is highly complimentary to their character.*]

FEB. 28. By His Majeſty's command the Phyſicians' report is to be diſcontinued from this day.

By private letters from Madras we learn, That Tippo Sultan has lately made on the frontiers of the Carnatic, ſome military movements that indicate a ſtrong deſire to break a peace to which he conſented ſo reluctantly. Educated in camps, and accuſtomed from his infancy to the din of war, that turbulent and enterpriſing Prince will never ceaſe to employ againſt the Engliſh, every engine of force or fraud, till ſuch time he has driven them from the Carnatic, or ruined himſelf in the attempt.

Mr. HASTINGS' trial is to be reſumed on the 16th of April next.

The King we are happy to ſay, is recovered. He is now as perfectly himſelf as he ever was at any period of his life. All that remains to be guarded againſt, is, the poſſibility of a relapſe. Againſt this, there are reaſons as well grounded as the beſt obſervations of phyſicians can poſſibly be.

On that obſervation, His Majeſty's malady has been held to be, not an Infanity, but a Delirium—and for this reaſon—In caſes of Inſanity, the diſorder is little affected by the pulſe. The patient retains his diſorder, be the pulſe high or low.

In caſes of Delirium, the thing is directly the reverſe: As the fever decreaſes, the patient recovers his mental faculties.

It has happened exactly ſo to His Majeſty. When his pulſe was at 120, his malady was at its height. His pulſe now is at 64, and he is perfectly recollected: and it will be a ſatisfaction to the public to know, that caſes of delirium ceaſe with the cauſe, and ſcarcely ever return. The King now ſees, and converſes with perfect compoſure, with different people; and ſo ſenſible is he at preſent of what has paſſed, that he only requeſts they would not talk to him on public affairs—"Let me be quiet for the preſent."

Every thing announces a ſecond campaign againſt the Turks. The company of miners, commanded by Capt. CHATELET, quitted Pleſs ſome time ſince to go to Gradiſka; they are ordered to march as faſt as poſſible. The next campaign we expect will be opened by the ſiege of Birbir.

The peace of the North, which many have expreſſed a hope to ſee eſtabliſhed, does not ſeem likely to be ſettled without a farther appeal to arms. For although the King of Sweden, on the 25th ult. declared his mind to the Diet of that Kingdom, yet their continuing to arm with vigor, and the general unanimity that prevails between the King and his States, are ſtrong motives to excite our belief, that war will continue on the part of Sweden.

Nothing could poſſibly be more incommode to oppoſition, than the recovery of the King. A noble Lord, ſuppoſing his appointment to the Lieutenancy of Ireland certain, had beſpoke all his liveries, which were uncommonly ornamented with lace. They were actually finiſhed, and ready to be packed up. The new Favorite's coach-maker indeed was leſs precipitate in his operations. A ſplendid carriage, lined with roſe-colored ſatin, was ordered, but counter-ordered before any progreſs in the work was made.

THEATRE, COVENT-GARDEN.

A few minutes before the curtain drew up, on Saturday night, Dr. WILLIS took his ſeat in the King's Box: His green glaſſes were on, and he kept them on during the whole Evening. The moment he was ſeated, the band, as if by previous intimation, ſtruck up GOD SAVE THE KING. And at the end of the play, the actors came on the ſtage and ſung it. And, as Garrick ſaid, ALL THIS FOR DR. WILLIS.

What a pity Dr. WILLIS was not ſent for, previous to the breaking out of the American war. Who knows but he might have ſaved America, as well as an hundred millions of money, and a hundred thouſand lives.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1789.

REGENCY BILL.

The Lord Chancellor left the Woolſack, and ſaid, the idea their Lordſhips had gone upon in their late adjournments, had aroſe from their wiſhes that his Majeſty might have as much time as poſſible allowed to him for the re-eſtabliſhment of his health as could be allowed, conſiſtent with the preſſure of public affairs, before he took any part in the public buſineſs.

Since their laſt adjournment, his Majeſty had found his health ſo far re-eſtabliſhed and confirmed, that he had expreſſed his intention of ſignifying on Tueſday next, to his parliament, what buſineſs was neceſſary to be taken; he ſhould therefore move their Lordſhips to adjourn to Tueſday next.

Ordered *nem. diſ.*

At five o'clock the Houſe adjourned, till Tueſday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY MARCH 5, 1789.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer roſe and ſaid, from the preſent happy ſtate of his Majeſty's health, he had the pleaſure to inform the Houſe it was probable that they would receive a communication from the King on Tueſday next: he ſhould therefore move the Houſe to adjourn to Tueſday next.

The King's (of Great-Britain) perſonal property amounts to ſeven millions Sterling.

COPLEY is carrying on the ſiege of Gibralter, with thoſe ſlow and regular approaches, which cannot fail of ſucceſs. One barge of Marines, forms a principal feature of the work, and is diſpoſed with a dexterity, and a fertility of invention, peculiar to this great maſter.

MARCH 7.

The commotions in Brabant ſeem now drawing to a criſis; for no doubt can now remain of the Emperor's intention. That he has ſold the country to France appears evident; for no power can be ſo great a ſtranger to the intrigues of that court, as to allow it to garriſon its fortified towns on the faith of having them reſtored.

We have long intimated a ſecret correſpondence which has paſſed between the courts of Vienna and Verſailles. The Queen has been trying every art to give the Emperor ſome effectual aſſiſtance, and it now ſeems that the country of Brabant is to be the price of it. It only remains to be ſhown in what manner the Flemings will reſiſt ſuch an uſurpation.

The Emperor has preſented PRINCE POTEMKIN with a ſtar, of the value of 100,000 florins.

Letters from Warſaw, dated February 8, ſay, that the ſpirit of oppoſition between the two principal parties which divide that republic, far from diminiſhing, augments daily; they are no longer content with differing in opinion only, but even proceed to thoſe fatal marks of diſtinction which, without doing the leaſt good, excite diviſions, and produce many other evils. The triumphant party wear red caps with gold lace; thoſe of the King's green ones with gold lace. The latter uſe all their endeavours to re-eſtabliſh the permanent council; and it is aſtoniſhing how they reſiſt the oppoſite party, eſpecially as it ſeems neither the court of Ruſſia nor Vienna will ſupport them againſt the patriotic party, which appears to be ſupported with the approbation of a powerful potentate, and will no longer hear of a permanent council, but mean to form another under the title of a council of vigilance, which will be of a quite different form, and where his Majeſty will have very little influence.

PERA, *Dec.* 21. This morning we were aſtoniſhed to hear that Oczakow had been carried by the aſſault of the Ruſſians.—This news was ſo little expected, that moſt part of the foreign miniſters had ſent advices to their courts of the ſiege having been raiſed.

PROCEEDINGS of CONGRESS.

In the HOUSE *of* REPRESENTATIVES *of the* UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, MAY 4, 1789.

The Houſe met agreeably to adjournment.

A petition from the ſhipwrights of the town of Baltimore was preſented by Mr. SMITH, and being read, was referred to a committee of the whole on the ſtate of the Union.

Mr. MADISON gave notice, that on the fourth Monday of the preſent month, he ſhould introduce the ſubject of amendments to the Conſtitution, agreeably to the fifth article of the Conſtitution: He thought it neceſſary thus early to mention the buſineſs, as it was weighty and important, and upon motion, the time propoſed by the gentleman was aſſigned.

Mr. AMES preſented three petitions from private perſons, which were ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. GOODHUE then propoſed, that the remainder of the report of the committee, reſpecting tonnage, ſhould be taken up.

The firſt article was then read, viz. That all veſſels belonging to a citizen or citizens of the United States, ſhould pay a tonnage duty of 6 cents.

Mr. BLAND propoſed an amendment, which was ſeconded, viz. That theſe words ſhould be added—excepting veſſels bound from one port to another within the United States.

The gentleman obſerved, that as the article now ſtood it was contrary to the expreſs letter and meaning of the Conſtitution, which provides that veſſels bound to or from one State, ſhall not be obliged to enter, clear or pay duties in another.

Mr. LAWRENCE was oppoſed to the amendment: He thought that the Conſtitution fully warranted the laying a tonnage duty—that the article the gentleman referred to was plain in its meaning, and ought to be conſtrued only as referring to entrances and clearances at a third port—coaſting veſſels were greatly benefited by light houſes, pilotage, &c. and it was but reaſonable that they ſhould pay for thoſe advantages.

Mr. MADISON was in ſentiment with Mr. LAWRENCE, in his conſtruction of the meaning of the clauſe in the Conſtitution. The ideas of ſome gentlemen upon it, he obſerved, were unreaſonable and inconſiſtent, he conceived, with the Conſtitution, and muſt in their opinion totally defeat the revenue—for if veſſels were not obliged to enter and clear at *ſome port*, the whole duties might be evaded: He thought the conſtruction of the article ſimple, and eaſy to comprehend.

Mr. BLAND replied, that he was not convinced of the impropriety of his motion—the gentleman's reaſoning, he conceived, went too far—here was a plain, poſſitive declaration, and if we were to ſuppoſe, that becauſe the Conſtitution gave Congreſs neceſſary powers, it gave them every power, they would be abſolute at once: The article was definite, he conceived; but gentlemen have put different conſtructions upon it—it was however well known, that the Convention in framing this article, deſigned to encourage the coaſting trade.

Mr. LIVERMORE, Mr. BALDWIN and Mr. CLYMER coincided in ſentiment with Mr. MADISON.

Mr. BOUDINOT obſerved, that this amendment would deprive Congreſs of all power to raiſe a revenue: The Conſtitution had veſted ſuch powers in Congreſs, and they were ſworn to ſupport the Conſtitution: When theſe powers were duly conſidered, he preſumed, that it would not be contended, that they had not this in particular: The idea of the Convention in the conſtruction of the clauſe, was to preclude all partiality to any individual State: It moreover extends, he obſerved, to all veſſels indiſcriminately, ſo that the conſtruction of the gentleman goes to exempt all from any obligation to pay duties—Sir, ſhall a veſſel bound to Europe not pay tonnage, becauſe ſhe may collect her cargo at different ports upon the continent—this would entirely overſet the whole ſyſtem of revenue.

Mr. BLAND replied that the Conſtitution was expreſs, that no duty ſhould be impoſed or paid by one State on the articles of another: Tonnage was a duty of this deſcription.

Mr. MADISON said, it is expreſsly declared by the Conſtitution, that Congreſs ſhall have power to regulate trade, but if they cannot oblige veſſels to enter and clear, to what purpoſe is this power given?—Can they be ſaid to regulate trade in any degree whatever?

Mr. SYLVESTER obſerved, that the article was explicit as words could make it, to his apprehenſion theſe words "in another" plainly indicated, that the duty had been paid at ſome one port, to entitle to an exemption from duties in another.

Upon the votes being taken, it paſſed in the negative, ſo that Mr. BLAND's amendment was loſt.

The firſt article was then put and carried.

The ſecond article was alſo voted, with this amendment, the inſertion of the word NOW, before owned—as it now ſtands.

The third article came next in courſe, viz. Upon all veſſels owned by the ſubjects of powers with whom the United States had formed treaties, &c.

Mr. LAWRENCE propoſed, and was ſeconded, that the words, with whom the United States had formed treaties, ſhould be ſtruck out of the report.

This produced a debate, which was ſupported with ſpirit and ingenuity on both ſides.

Mr. LAWRENCE obſerved, that the preſent ſituation of the United States, ſhould lead her to obſerve a perfect neutiality with reſpect to all foreign nations whether in treaty with us or not—that we had not ſhipping ſufficient to export the produce of the country—conſequently, we muſt employ foreign veſſels—nations in treaty could not furniſh us, and therefore we were under the neceſſity to employ the Britiſh, thoſe of our allies, and American, to tranſport our produce, or elſe it muſt periſh on our hands: This neceſſity places us in the power of foreigners, and gives them every advantage.—Freight will be inhanced in proportion to the tonnage, ſo that this diſcrimination operates as a bounty to foreigners, and a tax upon our own produce: But I appeal to gentlemen, (Mr. Lawrence ſaid) whether the produce of the country can bear any addition to its price—with reſpect to rice and tobacco, gentlemen from the ſouthward muſt determine—as to the produce of the eaſtern and northern States, it was well known it could not—the eaſtern fiſheries, it had been plainly proved were in a declining ſituation already—This diſcrimination will be conſidered as a retaliating meaſure.—It is fact that no commercial treaties now exiſt between the United States and Spain, Portugal and Great Britain—we carried on a great trade with thoſe countries; we might form ſuch treaties; but ſuch regulations as were now propoſed, would produce ſimilar on their part—and in that caſe our condition, bad as it is, will be changed for the worſe.—As the fiſh from the eaſtern States will be incumbered with duties in Spain and Portugal.—As the meaſure reſpected Great Britain, the gentleman thought it was better to negociate, than to wage a war of regulations—it would be better to try this mode at the preſent, the other would always be in our power—This diſcrimination will have a diſagreeable effect—Great Britain is rich, old and powerful—we now derive advantages, great and many in our intercourſe with them—their ports in India were open to us, a trade that was conſidered of immenſe importance, and which the influence of that nation in India could materially affect, either in our favor or againſt—the gentleman hoped we ſhould therefore adopt negociation before we tried the propoſed expedient.

Mr. MADISON conſidered the ſubject as involving a general queſtion—how far any diſcrimination ſhould be made: Gentlemen had obſerved, that our ſhipping was not ſufficient, he believed that was the fact at preſent, and if we did not want a maritime power, if the United States did not need a navy, he ſhould be for opening our ports to the whole world—But it is, Sir, (the gentleman obſerved) neceſſary to provide for our ſecurity—and though we may be obliged to pay a temporary advance and make ſome ſacrifices to obtain it, yet it would prove a ſaving in the end, and may prevent the horrors of war.

Nothing eſſentially different, from what had before been offered, has been now ſaid—I ſhall therefore reſerve myſelf to make a motion, that time may be given for the operation of this duty.

It is evident, that the ſentiments of the people are in favor of a diſcrimination, evidenced by the ſeparate attempts of the reſpective governments, and if in the firſt act of Congreſs this diſtinction ſhould be aboliſhed we ſhall certainly diſappoint our conſtituents. The gentleman laſt ſpeaking contends, that we enjoy advantages in our connections and trade with Great Britain. But ſir, it is evident, that the object of that nation has been an univerſal monopoly: ſelfiſh in her commercial regulations, we derive no benefits from her, but ſuch as are extorted by her attention to her own neceſſities, and our peculiar advantages: There was a moment when Great-Britain would have negociated, but reverting to her narrow policy, the want of power on our part was objected to. The executive of that country, have the power to regulate their commerce as the ſtate of things here may dictate, varying their ſyſtems ſo as to promote their own intereſt. I do not fear their retaliating, they have no new expedients to try: If neceſſary, the people will aſſociate, and it is very certain that ſince the reſources of the country have been explored, and our capacity for manufactures aſcertained; an aſſociation againſt their manufactory, will now produce a greater conſternation than ever. I conceive we have nothing to apprehend: but ſuppoſing the worſt, what grievous wound can Great-Britain inflict? Reſtrictions on the trade to the Weſt-Indies would ſoon bring them to reaſon, they muſt depend for the neceſſaries of life in thoſe iſlands, on this country entirely, in a few years. What do we want from Great-Britain? we may make them depend upon us, and ſhe would very ſoon ſacrifice her pride rather than ſacrifice the eſſentials of her trade and manufactures. Their iſlands depend upon us for ſubſiſtence—at this moment we hear the cry of diſtreſs from one of them: We have nothing to fear, the fears are on their ſide. I have not time particularly to go into a compariſon of the commerce of foreign countries, but our OIL is now received upon peculiar advantages in France: our RICE will ſoon be admitted according to the beſt accounts. We ſhould not ſurely diſcourage our allies at this intereſting period; there are between 80 and 90000 hogſheads of tobacco exported to England, and but about 16000 are conſumed in that kingdom; the reſt was re-ſhipped by the merchants of Great-Britain, to all parts of the continent, and the ſame may be ſaid of the principal part of our produce ſent to that country. Our ALLIES merit ſome advantages to place their navigation upon more equal terms: It would be pleaſing ſir, if ſome diſtinction could be made in favour of Spain and Portugal, but at preſent, I do not ſee how it can be done. Treaties, however, may ſoon be formed between us and thoſe powers: I rely upon the conſiſtency of conduct, which will be obſerved by this houſe. Our conſtituents are all anxious for ſome diſcrimination, and will be diſappointed ſhould the words in the report be ſtruck out. I do not contend for a great difference, but a difference is neceſſary, politic, and juſt.

Mr. FITZSIMONS obſerved, that Great-Britain takes excluſively from us, lumber—if 40s. per thouſand duty was laid, they muſt pay it; the ſame may be ſaid of proviſions: This was proved by the riſe of theſe articles, and the riſe of their freight—the freight was not in proportion to the tonnage—the rice of Carolina, was another article not to be produced elſewhere—flaxſeed and potaſh alſo from the eaſtward—6s. 8d. duty on tonnage had been paid in ſome of the ſtates, but it did not enhance freight, the charges fall on the conſumer. He acknowledged there might be ſome difficulties on account of Spain and Portugal, but none with Great-Britain, we were their beſt cuſtomers.

Mr. WADSWORTH was oppoſed to all diſcrimination—we enjoyed, he obſerved, great advantages in our trade with G. Britain: Our flaxſeed, potaſh, naval ſtores and lumber, were carried there upon equal and better terms than from other countries, that they were not confined to our market for theſe articles was well known, that to deprive ourſelves of this market would be the greateſt ill-policy as we could find no ſubſtitute: it had been acknowledged that the ſhipping of the States, was not ſufficient to tranſport the productions of the country in this ſituation, ſhall we prohibit a competition between the ſeveral maritime powers, for our carrying trade, and ſuffer our produce to periſh on our own hands? Policy forbids it—the ſtate of the union forbids it—and he conceived the houſe would be in favour of the motion to ſtrike out the clauſe in the report—ſeveral other gentlemen ſpoke upon the ſubject: Mr. JACKSON, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr LAWRENCE and Mr. MADISON, again; but the ſubſtance of the whole debate is contained in the foregoing.

The vote being taken to ſtrike out the words "with whom the United States have formed treaties." It paſſed in the negative, ſo the motion of the Hon. Mr. LAWRENCE, was loſt.

The Houſe adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1789.

Rev. Mr. LINN, the Chaplain of the Houſe officiated for the firſt time.

Mr. BENSON preſented the report of the committee, appointed to conſider what title, or whether any other than what the conſtitution points out, ſhould be given to the Preſident and other officers of the national government—which was that it was not proper to give any other title, than what the Conſtitution contains—This report was unanimouſly accepted.

Mr. MADISON, one of the committee appointed to anſwer the Speech of THE PRESIDENT, introduced the report of that committee, which being read by the Clerk, it was referred to a committee of the whole Houſe—where being read and amended, was unanimouſly paſſed, and afterwards accepted by the Houſe.

Mr BLAND introduced the reſolution of the State of Virginia, upon the ſubject of amendments, which after ſome converſation, was ordered to be entered on the journals of the Houſe, and the original depoſited with the files in the Clerk's office.

That part of the report of the committe of the whole reſpecting tonnage, was then reſumed—upon which Mr. JACKSON propoſed, that the ſum of 30 cents on foreign tonnage of nations in alliance, ſhould be ſtruck out, and 20 inſerted.—This produced a long debate, ſketches of which ſhall appear in our next.—No deciſion was had upon the propoſition, when the Houſe adjourned.

NEW-YORK, MAY 6.

THE PRESIDENT's HOUSEHOLD.

WHEREAS, all Servants and others, employed to procure Proviſions, or ſupplies, for the Houſehold of THE PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES, will be furniſhed with monies for thoſe purpoſes. *Notice is therefore given*, That no Accounts, for the payment of which the Public might be conſidered as reſponſible, are to be opened with any of them. SAMUEL FRAUNCES, *Steward of the Houſehold.*

MAY 4*th*, 1789.

We are happy to inform our readers, in addition to the preceding Notification, that we underſtand THE PRESIDENT is determined to purſue that ſyſtem of regularity and economy in his houſehold, which has always marked his public and private life. As a proof of this we learn, That the Steward is obliged, by his articles of agreement, to exhibit, weekly, a fair ſtatement of the receipts, and expenditures of monies by him, for and on account of THE PRESIDENT's Houſehold, to ſuch perſon as THE PRESIDENT may appoint to inſpect the ſame; together with the ſeveral bills and receipts of payment for thoſe articles which may be purchaſed by him, where ſuch bills and receipts can be obtained. And it is likewiſe ſtrongly inculcated upon the Steward, to guard againſt any waſte or extravagance, that might be committed by the ſervants of the family.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURE.

THE PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES, *on the day of his inauguration, appeared dreſſed in a complete ſuit of* HOMESPUN CLOATHS; *but the Cloth was of ſo* FINE A FABRIC, AND SO HANDSOMELY FINISHED, *that it was univerſally miſtaken for a foreign manufactured ſuperfine-Cloth. This* FACT, *the Editor hopes, will apologize for his not having mentioned, in his laſt paper, a* CIRCUMSTANCE, *which muſt be conſidered as not only flattering to our* MANUFACTURERS *in particular; but intereſting to our* COUNTRYMEN *in general.*

His Excellency THE VICE-PRESIDENT, appears alſo in a ſuit of American Manufacture—and ſeveral Members of both Houſes are diſtinguiſhed by the ſame token of attention to the manufacturing intereſt of their country.

From this bright Era, ſee Columbia riſe!
Her Empire prop'd by him who arch'd the Skies!
Freedom and Independence—ARTS, and Peace,
Shall crown the Scene till Time and Nature ceaſe.

By accounts from Boſton it appears, that the *Tradeſmen* and *Manufacturers* of that metropolis, are following the patriotic example of their brethren of Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New-York, in aſſociating for the promoting of the Manufactures of the Union: They all are turning their attention to the Grand Council of the Nation, as the only adequate ſource of relief—the prop of their hopes, and from whoſe power alone, ſuch great NATIONAL OBJECTS can receive competent encouragement, ſupport and protection.

The Duck Manufacture in Boſton, is patronized by gentlemen of the firſt character and fortune in that place; and there is the greateſt probability, that the navigation of that State, will in a few years, be wafted to every quarter of the globe, by canvas from the American Looms.

The Manufacturing Houſe for Duck in Boſton, is pleaſantly ſituated at the South Weſt part of the town.

The building is 180 feet long—two ſtories high—the upper part is improved by the ſpinners of the chains, or warp of the Duck—ſixteen young women, and as many girls, under the direction of a ſteady matron, are here employed.

In the lower part there are twenty-eight Looms, which can turn out two pieces of Duck, of 40 yards each, pr. week.

This Manufacture is a very great public benefit, as it employs a great number of the poor.

Yeſterday the Company at THE PRESIDENT's houſe, was extremely numerous and reſpectable.

The late intimation, that a GREAT PERSONAGE, will not expect viſits on Sundays, has received the applauſe of all orders of citizens: The *ſerious* part of the community feel highly gratified in this mark of reſpect to what they conſider a DIVINE INJUNCTION—while thoſe, who do not reflect upon the ſubject in ſo ſolemn a point of view, yet, as good members of ſociety, they rejoice in the circumſtance as ſanctioning a wiſe and political inſtitution.—Happy talent! of adopting ſuch regulations, as meet the approbation of all claſſes, and give offence to none.

The public addreſſes preſented to THE PRESIDENT of the United States, wear a different complexion from productions on ſimilar occaſions, heretofore offered to diſtinguiſh characters: It has been remarked, that theſe addreſſes are replete with the impreſſive ſentiments of the heart, and produce correſponding ſenſations in the minds of every reader.

A *National Spirit* diſtinguiſhes and adorns the preſent age—It is diſcovered in private circles, in villages, in towns, and cities—It ſhines in the acts and doings of the aſſociated bodies of mechanics, farmers, and merchants, by their emulation, induſtry, and enterprize, by their improvements in arts, agriculture, manufactures and patriotic contributions and exertions, to promote plans of public utility; but the full force and glory of this SPIRIT blazes with meridian luſtre in the great national council, where, even LOCAL intereſts are advocated only upon NATIONAL PRINCIPLES, and as they may ultimately advance the happineſs and proſperity of the Union.

The laſt Poſt brought us the firſt number of the COURIER DE BOSTON, a paper, publiſhed at Boſton, in the French language, By M. J. P. DE NANCREDE.

The utility of ſuch a paper, properly conducted and ſupported, will be very generally allowed: The acquiſition of the French Language, is now become an object of importance, and to have the news, politics, occurrences, &c. detailed in that language, will prove a medium of acquiring the French tongue, with the happieſt facility.

ERRATUM.

In THE PRESIDENT's *Speech to both Houſes of Congreſs, publiſhed in our laſt—laſt col. 3d page, for* "concluded," *read* included.

PRICES CURRENT.

BOSTON.

	New-York Currency.
Wine, Madeira,	12*ſ. a* 18*ſ.* 8.
——— Liſbon,	9*ſ.* 4.
——— Port,	9*ſ.* 4,
——— Fayal,	4*ſ.*
Rum, Jamaica,	4*ſ.*
——— Windward Iſland,	3*ſ.* 2.
Salt, firſt Quality,	2*ſ.* 8. Buſhel.
——— Liſbon,	1*ſ.* 9. Ditto.
Tobacco, James-River,	37*ſ.* 4 per C.
——— Maryland,	30*ſ.*
Sugar, in Grain,	64*ſ. a* 72*ſ.*
——— Lump,	11*d* 10.
——— Loaf,	1*ſ.* 2.
Brandy,	3*ſ.* 8 *a* 4.
Biſket—Ship Bread,	26*ſ.* 8 *a* 30*ſ.* C.
Plank,	53*ſ.* 4 *a* 80*ſ.*
Butter,	8*d.*
Coffee,	1*ſ.* 9.
Cotton,	1*ſ.* 1.
Cocoa,	106*ſ.* 8 C.
Candles, Tallow,	8*d.*
——— Spermaceti,	3*ſ.* 4.
Flour, Fine,	45*ſ.* 4.
——— 2d Quality,	37*ſ.* 4.
Flaxſeed,	6*ſ.* Buſhel.
Codfiſh, Salted,	18*ſ.* 8. C.
Molaſſes,	1*ſ.* 7. Gallon.

EXCHANGE

Upon London, Bills 5 per Cent. advance.

ARRIVALS.

At the Port of New-York.

Saturday, Brig —— Hemberg, Cadiz, 102 days.
Schooner Pilgrim, Robins, Baltimore, 8 days.
—— Edward, Smith, Shelburne, 8 days.
Sloop Sally, Mann, Edenton, 7 days.
Schooner Eſther, Swift, do. 7 days.
Sunday, Schooner Sincerity, White, Baltimore, 8 days.
—— Lively, Major, Shelburne, 13 days.
Sloop Brothers, Walton, Digby, 13 days.
Monday, —— Ruth, Smith, St. Croix, 20 days.
Tueſday, Brig Columbia, Brown, St. Euſtatia, 18 days.

☞ *In future, this Paper will be printed and publiſhed at No.* 9, *Maiden-Lane, near the Oſwego Market.*

THE TABLET.

NUMBER VII.

"One great cauſe of error, is our taking for granted that habits are right becauſe they have been long eſtabliſhed."

NOTHING exhibits the infirmities of human nature in a more ſtriking, and at the ſame time, in a more melancholy view, than that *one* half of life is ſpent in lamenting the misfortunes, and correcting the miſtakes of the *other*. The truth of this obſervation, derives a ſtill greater force, when applied to communities. From whatever cauſe it happens, it is an evident fact, that legiſlators in moſt countries and ages, have been ſo perplexed by the operation of paſt laws, that they either forget, or have not leiſure to make regulations, that ſhall have a better influence in future. By this means, they are often compelled, to act, like a man embarraſſed with debt: He looks only for immediate relief, and lays the foundation of far greater trouble, than that from which he has been eſcaping. It may be well to enquire how this happens? The ſolution of the queſtion is not difficult. It has been the misfortune of moſt legiſlators, that they have framed their meaſures more according to their own caprices and abſtract notions of government, than according to the real circumſtances of the people, who are to obey thoſe laws. National prejudice is apt to be miſtaken for national intereſt. It is commonly ſuppoſed that laws and regulations that are ill adapted to the opinions, the prejudices and the cuſtoms of a people, expoſe their authors to contempt; and encreaſe rather than remove the diſorders, for which they are calculated. The rule of government it is ſaid, ſhould never counteract the general opinion of the nation. Theſe maxims, though generally true, ſhould be practiſed upon with ſome precaution, and adopted under ſome reſtrictions. The ſecret plots of a cabal and the noiſy clamours of a faction, are different things from the voice of a whole people. Theſe ſhould not be comprehended in the idea of popular ſentiment. The general opinion of the community may often be proper, at the time it is eſtabliſhed; but a change of circumſtances happens more eaſily than a removal of prejudices. This cauſe conſtitutes one of the moſt arduous taſks of legiſlation.

As there ſhould be a reſemblance between national character and national laws, it is apt to be inferred that in looſe diſorderly times, the laws muſt wear a ſimilar complexion. But the principle ſhould not be carried too far. It only inculcates the impropriety of too ſuddently attempting a public reformation from diſorders. The work muſt be progreſſive and conciliating; not ſudden and overbearing. Laws of too ſevere an aſpect will irritate rather than reform. If theſe remarks are juſt and they really appear to me ſo, it is requiſite that the prevailing ſpirit and manners of a country ſhould be examined before it can be pronounced with certainty, what will be the moſt ſalutary and ſucceſsful methods of governing it. When this knowledge is aſcertained, it ſhould be applied not only with prudence, but with honeſty. It may be raſhneſs for men to oppoſe with violence the current opinions of the day; but certainly if they believe them erroneous, it is diſhoneſt not to attempt by ſuitable means to correct ſuch errors.

It is an unfortunate fact, that men in public office are too apt to find their account in cheriſhing popular caprice. There lies a ſuſpicion againſt the underſtanding or integrity of that adminiſtration which cannot carry into effect ſuch meaſures as the public welfare requires, without fomenting a temper of diſaffection, or inſtigating acts of diſobedience. "A free and jealous people ſhould be treated like a coy, capricious girl. If ſhe does not at firſt conſent, her humor muſt be watched; and if ſhe is courted with a delicate kind of treatment, her obſtinacy will in time ſubſide."

In my next, the ſubject ſhall be illuſtrated, by remarks that are more obvious and definite.

From the FEDERAL GAZETTE.

IN the diſtribution of offices in republican governments the followingci rcumſtances ſhould be attended to.

1. Qualification for the office, in knowledge, integrity and induſtry.
2. An irreproachable private character.
3. Former ſervices to the ſtate or country.
4. Family connection. A wife and children are the beſt ſecurities a man can give for his good behaviour. If a man will not truſt a woman with his happineſs, a State ſhould not truſt that man with its liberty or property. Beſides a ſingle man by a very little labor may always maintain himſelf.
5. Regard ſhould be had to a man's conduct in his former line of buſineſs; a lazy, careleſs or diſhoneſt lawyer, doctor, merchant or mechanic, will certainly make a bad public officer.
6. A proper degree of reſpect ſhould be paid to a man who has been unfortunate (without imprudence) in buſineſs. Bankruptcy in America, and Europe are different things. Paper money, tender laws, and funding ſyſtems have ruined ſome of the beſt men in our country; and had theſe evils continued much longer, they would not have left a man to rule over us, or to execute an office, who had not been the ſubject of the bankrupt law, or of the act of inſolvency.
7. In the diſtribution of offices, rulers ſhould *look* out for the moſt ſuitable men to fill them: Modeſt men will not apply for them, and imprudent men do not deſerve them. Perhaps an order from the Preſident of the United States that the perſonal applicant for an office ſhould never have one, might prevent much trouble, idleneſs and ſcurrility. It would moreover ſave the feelings of the ſupreme magiſtrate of the Union, who cannot ſerve every body, and therefore muſt often give offence.

TIMOLEON.

NATIONAL.

From the PENNSYLVANIA PACKET.

IT appears by the publications of this day, that the firſt object that has engaged the attention of the Repreſentatives in Congreſs, is the revenue ſyſtem, and the collection of duties by impoſt.

The arrangement of the financial affairs of the Union involves intereſt of ſo conſpicuous a character, that it naturally claims the pre-eminence; for on the ſucceſsful iſſue of this buſineſs depends the eſtabliſhment of public credit, and all the train of benefits, of a public and private nature, that always accompany it.

The intention of this paper is to point out the ſimilarity of ſituation in which we are placed, to that of the Britiſh in the reign of William.

The re-coinage of the ſilver had occaſioned a great ſcarcity of ſpecie—the oppoſition made by thoſe who were averſe to the revolution generated political feuds, which were attended with a general want of confidence in the government; the public ſecurities, that had been emitted to thoſe who had lent money, rendered ſervices or furniſhed ſupplies, had depreciated, inſomuch that the tallies, exchequer bills, &c. had fallen from 40 to 60 per cent. diſcount, and all loans to government were procured on exorbitant premiums. In this alarming criſis, the eloquence and abilites of Mr. Montague (than Chancellor of the Exchequer) ſaved the nation.

He had a computation made of the exact amount of all the obligations due by government, for which he procured ſpecific funds, to be appropriated by Parliament for the payment of the annual intereſt; the ſurplus, if any, to be formed into a fund for the extinction of the capital. This grant, "to ſupply deficiencies, and raiſe the public credit," was *unanimouſly* entered into, by the Commons. See 8 and 9 William III. chapt. 20, ſection the firſt, which was the principal foundation of the public credit of Great Britain, and which is worthy the moſt ſerious conſideration of every member of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.

See Parliamentary Debates, vol. 3, page 70.

The Tendency of ſuch meaſures was to reſtore public credit, and eſtabliſh it on the moſt permanent and reſpectable footing: Since that period, it never has been violated by Great Britain in a ſingle inſtance. Indeed, the benefits that were derived from its ſupport were the foundation of all her greatneſs; it occaſioned immenſe ſums of money to flow into that favored country, from all quarters, which by its continual encreaſe and abundance ſo leſſened its value, that the miniſtry were enabled to reduce the intereſt of the public debts (with the conſent of the creditors) from 6 to 5 per cent. in the year 1717; from 5 to 4 per cent. in the year 1727; from 4 to 3 per cent. in the year 1750 to 1757; by which reductions an annual ſaving was made of £.1,266,971 ſterling.

But beſides this advantage, the plenty of money animated and ſupported every branch of induſtry, and rendered the taxes a very eaſy burthen for the people to bear; the funded debt, from the facility of its transfer, became a repreſentative of all alienable property, and thereby aided and encreaſed the circulating medium.

From the day that ſuch a ſyſtem is adopted and purſued, we may date the commencement of the riſing ſplendor of this country. Every palliative or plan that may fall ſhort of this ſyſtem, will only tend to the poſtponement of this glorious period.

AGRICOLA.

HUMANITY.

Extract from the proceedings of the aſſociation of Baptiſt Churches, met at Portſmouth-common, in England, May 14 and 15, 1788.

"AGREED, as an aſſociation, thus publicly to expreſs our deepeſt abhorrence of the *Slave Trade*, and to recommend it earneſtly to the miniſters and members of our churches, to unite in promoting to the utmoſt of their power every ſcheme, that is or may be propoſed, to procure the Abolition of a traffic ſo unjuſt, inhuman, and diſgraceful; and the continuance of which tends to counteract and deſtroy the operations of the benevolent principles and ſpirit of our common chriſtianity.

"Agreed, that the above Reſolution be tranſmitted to Granville Sharp, Eſq. Chairman of the Committee formed in London for the abolition of the Slave Trade, together with Five-Guineas as a ſmall donation from our little fund, for the purpoſes of the ſaid committee, and as a public expreſſion of our hearty approbation of the generous cauſe in which they are engaged."

PLAN
OF THE
GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.
A NATIONAL PAPER.

To be publiſhed at the SEAT *of the* FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, *and to compriſe, as fully as poſſible, the following Objects, viz.*

I. EARLY and authentick Accounts of the PROCEEDINGS of CONGRESS—its LAWS, ACTS, and RESOLUTIONS, communicated ſo as to form an *HISTORY of the TRANSACTIONS of the FEDERAL LEGISLATURE, under the NEW CONSTITUTION.*

II. IMPARTIAL SKETCHES of the DEBATES of CONGRESS.

III. ESSAYS upon the great ſubjects of Government in general, and the *Federal Legiſlature in particular*; alſo upon the *national* and *local* Rights of the AMERICAN CITIZENS, as founded upon the Federal or State Conſtitutions; alſo upon every other Subject, which may appear ſuitable for newſpaper diſcuſſion.

IV. A SERIES of PARAGRAPHS, calculated to catch the "LIVING MANNERS AS THEY RISE," and to point the publick attention to Objects that have an important reference to *domeſtick, ſocial*, and *publick happineſs*.

V. The Intereſts of the United States as connected with their literary Inſtitutions—religious and moral Objects—Improvements in Science, Arts, EDUCATION and HUMANITY—their foreign Treaties, Alliances, Connections, &c.

VI. Every *ſpecies* of INTELLIGENCE, which may affect the *commercial, agricultural, manufacturing*, or *political* INTERESTS of the AMERICAN REPUBLICK.

VII. A CHAIN of DOMESTICK OCCURRENCES, collected through the Medium of an extenſive Correſpondence with the reſpective States.

VIII. A SERIES of FOREIGN ARTICLES of INTELLIGENCE, ſo connected, *as to form a general Idea of publick Affairs in the eaſtern Hemiſphere.*

IX. The STATE of the NATIONAL FUNDS; alſo of the INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS—Courſes of Exchange—Prices Current, &c.

CONDITIONS.

I.

THE GAZETTE *of the* UNITED STATES *ſhall be printed with the ſame* Letter, *and on the ſame* Paper *as this publication.*

II.

It ſhall be publiſhed every WEDNESDAY *and* SATURDAY, *and delivered, as may be directed, to every Subſcriber in the city, on thoſe days.*

III.

The price to Subſcribers (excluſive of poſtage) *will be* THREE DOLLARS *pr. annum.*

IV.

The firſt ſemi-annual payment to be made in three months *from the appearance of the firſt number.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Will be received in all the capital towns upon the Continent; alſo at the City-Coffee-Houſe, *and at* No. 86, William-Street, *until the firſt of* May, *from which time at* No. 9, Maiden-Lane, *near the* Oſwego-Market, New-York.

N. B. By a new Arrangement made in the Stages, Subſcribers at a diſtance will be duly furniſhed with papers.

POSTSCRIPT.—*A large impreſſion of every number will be ſtruck off—ſo that Subſcribers may always be accommodated with complete ſets.*

To the PUBLICK.

AT this important Criſis, the ideas that fill the mind, are pregnant with Events of the greateſt magnitude—to ſtrengthen and complete the UNION of the States—to extend and protect their COMMERCE, under *equal* Treaties yet to be formed—to explore and arrange the NATIONAL FUNDS—to reſtore and eſtabliſh the PUBLICK CREDIT—and *ALL* under the auſpices of an untried Syſtem of Government, will require the ENERGIES of the Patriots and Sages of our Country—*Hence the propriety of encreaſing the Mediums of Knowledge and Information.*

AMERICA, from this period, begins a new Era in her national exiſtence—"THE WORLD IS ALL BEFORE HER"—The wiſdom and folly—the miſery and proſperity of the EMPIRES, STATES, and KINGDOMS, which have had their day upon the great Theatre of Time, and are now no more, ſuggeſt the moſt important Mementos—Theſe, with the rapid ſeries of Events, in which our own Country has been ſo deeply intereſted, have taught the enlightened Citizens of the United States, that FREEDOM and GOVERNMENT—LIBERTY and LAWS, are inſeparable.

This Conviction has led to the adoption of the New Conſtitution; for however VARIOUS the Sentiments, reſpecting the MERITS of this Syſtem, all GOOD MEN are agreed in the neceſſity that exiſts, of an EFFICIENT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

A paper, therefore, eſtabliſhed upon NATIONAL, INDEPENDENT, and IMPARTIAL PRINCIPLES—which ſhall take up the premiſed Articles, upon a COMPETENT PLAN, it is preſumed, will be highly intereſting, and meet with publick approbation and patronage.

The Editor of this Publication is determined to leave no avenue of Information unexplored:—He ſolicits the aſſiſtance of Perſons of leiſure and abilities—which, united with his own aſſiduity, he flatters himſelf will render the Gazette of the United States not unworthy general encouragement—and is, with due reſpect, the publick's humble ſervant,

JOHN FENNO.

New-York, April 15, 1789.

TWO YOUNG SPRIGHTLY LADS

ARE wanted, as APPRENTICES to the Buſineſs of Printing.

Publiſhed by JOHN FENNO, No. 86, WILLIAM-STREET, NEW-YORK.